GOOD, NECESSARY TROUBLE

SEPTEMBER 26TH, 2020
LIVE ON FACEBOOK

"We Shall Overcome"
La Caccina

"Stand Up"
by Cynthia Erivo
Amaiya Holley

PANEL DISCUSSION

"If We Don't Come Home"
Makeda Loney

"Get Up, Stand Up"
by Bob Marley
"I Can't Breathe" "H.E.R"
ToMusic;

PANEL DISCUSSION

INTERMISSION

PANEL DISCUSSION

"Lovely, Dark and Lonely One"
by H.T Burleigh
Cameo Humes

"Strange Fruit"
by Abel Meeropol
Leah Dexter

Piano Sonata #2 in D (II, Tents of Kedar)
by Steve Wallace
John A. Bitoy III

"The Awakening" "We Wear the Mask"
by Steve Wallace
Tiana Sorenson

PANEL DISCUSSION

"A Change Gone Come"
by Sam Cook
D-Composed

GOOD, NECESSARY TROUBLE

"Do not get lost in a sea of despair. Be hopeful, be optimistic. Our struggle is not the struggle of a day, a week, a month, or a year, it is the struggle of a lifetime. Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble."

Rep. John Lewis

This global pandemic has caused us to be reawakened to the ugly truth of the system on which America stands, and the people it has for so long neglected. As we begin to reckon with racial injustices and oppression as a country, we have witnessed an endless deluge of nationwide protesting.

"Good, Necessary Trouble" will examine the role music plays in protesting injustice and telling the stories of our history.

When we first came together to figure out the how and why of what eventually would become Good, Necessary Trouble, the world had come under the new normal of a pandemic and protests were erupting on the streets.

So much has changed in the months since - and yet so much has not. In the sea of that despair, we hope to shine a light on the voices that most need to be heard:

To say that their lives are good & necessary;
to say that their lives matter;
to say that Black Lives Matter.

Hearing in Color

Hearing in Color is dedicated to exposing its community to underrepresented and diminished music, stories, and composers. Hearing in Color concerts highlight the work of emerging artists who are often overlooked in the traditional canon, and gives artistic license to people of marginalized cultures to curate and produce that work. Hearing in Color believes in the power of music to build community, and to comfort, embolden and inspire in the face of subjugation and oppression.

Want to get involved?

Head to

HEARINGINCOLOR.ORG/SUPPORT

to find out how!

Hearing in Color is a sponsored project of Fractured Atlas, a non-profit arts service organization. Contributions for the charitable purposes of Hearing in Color must be made payable to "Fractured Atlas" only and are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

ARTIST BIOS

AMAIYA HOLLEY

Amaiya Holley is a 2018 graduate of Bowie State University, where she received a Bachelors of Science in Theater Arts. During her matriculation at Bowie State, she made her professional debut in Black Nativity at Theater Alliance in Washington D.C. Now a resident of New York City, Amaiya attended Stella Adler Studio of Acting for their Black Arts Program, which upon completion landed her a lead role in George Brant's West Coast Premiere of Marie and Rosetta at Cygnet Theater. Amaiya has lofty aspirations of tackling the biggest stage of them all, Broadway! Amaiya thanks her HBCU and family for the unconditional support.

TIANA SORENSON

Wisconsin raised and currently Chicago based, Tiana Sorenson recently graduated from Northwestern University with her Master of Music in Voice and Opera. From chorus to opera to concert works, Tiana enjoys exploring and performing various repertoire. An advocate for human rights, she recently spoke on a #BlackVoicesMatter virtual panel with Milwaukee's early music ensemble Aperi Animam.

MAKEDA LONEY

Makeda Loney is a writer by trade, poet by force. In her career, she has been named to impressive industry lists, including The Drum's 50 under 30 in the U.S. in 2018, joined the ADCOLOR FUTURES Class of 2019, and The Pitch Fanzine's 100 Supermen and Women of 2020. She also serves as a content creator for Scapi Magazine, co-hosting a podcast called Fat Outta Hell, a podcast that strives to break down the stigma of fatness and celebrates body liberation.As a Brooklyn native living in Chicago, her love for grit and glamour knows no bounds – from sending people glitter-coated poetry in the mail to literally covering herself in it in her various performances. She can also be heard arguing with Chicagoans over acceptable pizza depth and trying to spread a little glitter everywhere she goes.

ARTIST BIOS

CAMEO HUMES

Hailed by critics for possessing a “compelling lyric tenor that pulses with the perennially conflicted feelings of the character” [Opera News] and a “sonorous, dark-hued timbre which vividly projected the complicated nature of the drama” [theWholeNote], CAMEO HUMES is quickly becoming one of the most sought-after tenors in operatic and concert repertoire.

He has performed with the Richmond Symphony, Fort Wayne Philharmonic, the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra, SANAA Opera Project, Hilton Head Choral Society, and the Orchestra Sinfonica dell’International Chamber Ensemble in Italy. His most recent engagement included a debut with Teatro alla Scala in the roles of Peter, Crab man, Mingo and Robbins in their production of Porgy and Bess.

Other operatic credits include the title role in Mozart’s La clemenza di Tito, Ottavio (Don Giovanni) with Operafestival di Roma, Almaviva (Il Barbiere di Siviglia), Gastone (La Traviata), Prunier (La Rondine), Peter (Porgy and Bess) with Lyric Opera of Chicago (cover), Dayton Opera and Skylight Music Theatre of Milwaukee, Crab man (Porgy and Bess) with The Princeton Festival, Nelson (Porgy and Bess) with Cincinnati Opera, and Ensemble (Show Boat) with Houston Grand Opera. He has recorded the lead role in Richard Thompson’s The Mask in the Mirror—a modern opera based on the life of Paul Laurence Dunbar—with Navona Records which was reviewed by Opera News and selected as Critic’s Choice. Recent concert performances include Handel’s Messiah with the Richmond Symphony, Samuel Coleridge-Taylor’s Hiawatha’s Wedding Feast with the Chicago Bar Association Symphony Orchestra, Handel’s Judas Maccabeus, Mozart’s Grand Mass in C minor, Haydn’s Lord Nelson Mass, Bach St. John Passion and Mass in B minor, and The Seven Last Words of Christ by Théodore Dubois.

A lover and avid performer of the Negro spiritual, Cameo has toured Spain, France and Ireland with the world renown American Spiritual Ensemble. He is also a regular member of the chorus at the Lyric Opera of Chicago.

ARTIST BIOS

TO MUSIC;

To Music; is formed by DMV-based, sister duo Salena and Taalibah, who have been influenced by R&B/Soul, Reggae, and Jazz since childhood. They each graduated from universities with B.A's in Vocal Performance and blend their voices with ease only a dedicated, creative, and musically-inclined sister collab can offer. Being the daughters of the infamous 2001 DC Sniper, they tend to find songwriting and live performing the humblest way to illuminate their experiences. They have dedicated their lives and music to speaking truth to love, pain, joy, and triumph. In 2018, To Music; released a mix-tape that is still available on all major streaming platforms!

JOHN A. BITOY III

John Bitoy is a Chicago based pianist who started playing at the age of nine, and has had the opportunity of being able to perform solo recitals across the county. He has also done guest lectures and performances on Arabic music and minority representation in music at the University of Chicago and Smith College. He has an undergraduate piano performance degree at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign (UIUC), and masters degree at DePaul also in piano performance. In addition to classical music, he also enjoys experimenting with other genres such as gospel, jazz, neo soul, R&B, and pop. Recently, he had his orchestral debut as piano soloist with the Symphony of Oak Park performing Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 2.

LEAH DEXTER

Leah Dexter is excited to be returning to the Hearing in Color concert series as a soloist for the second year in a row. The 2018-19 and current season saw Ms. Dexter in the world premiere performances of Shore's Freedom Ride with Chicago Opera Theater, a debut as alto soloist in Mahler's Symphony Nr. 2 with Chicago Sinfonietta, soloist for South Shore Opera of Chicago's 10th Anniversary Gala, and alto soloist in Tippett's A Child of Our Time with University of Chicago Symphony and Chorus. She was most recently seen in the world premiere of Garrop/Dye's The Transformation of Jane Doe with Chicago Opera Theater.

PANELIST BIOS

KYLE DICKSON

Kyle Dickson is a distinguished violinist, conductor, music educator, and advocate for the arts. He currently is a Freeman Conducting Fellow with Chicago Sinfonietta, and is the founder of Chicago Solisti Chamber Orchestra. Kyle is pursuing graduate studies in Orchestral Conducting with Maestro Victor Yampolsky at Northwestern University, and is currently a faculty member with New Music School.

KEDRICK ARMSTRONG

Conductor Kedrick Armstrong uses joy and curiosity for all music to drive his pursuit to foster understanding and fellowship within diverse communities. He alum of Chicago Sinfonietta's Project Inclusion Freeman Conducting Fellow program, recently served as assistant conductor of Chicago Opera Theater's Freedom Ride, and has served as Music Supervisor with Lyric Opera of Chicago. He currently works throughout the Chicagoland area conducting orchestras, operas, and choirs, in a range of musical genres.

DANIELLE "YELLEY" TAYLOR

A graduate of Northwestern and Oberlin, violist Danielle Taylor is the organizer of heartspace: an online gathering of black classical musicians with a common goal of networking, support, and the maintaining of a safe space for those of a shared experience. She is also the Artistic Director of D-Composed, a Chicago-based chamber music experience that honors Black creativity and culture through the music of Black composers. Yelley is a native of Oakland, CA and is a Blacktivist in her own right.

THANK YOU

Artists

La Caccina, Amaiya Holley, Makeda Loney, To Music;, John A. Bitoy III, Cameo Humes, Leah Dexter, Tiana Sorenson, Steve Wallace, D-Composed

Panelists

Danielle "Yelley" Taylor, Kedrick Armstrong, Kyle Dickson, Kori Coleman

Hearing in Color Production Team

Technical Director: Daniel Johanson
Artistic Coordinator: Angela Hamilton
Communications Manager: Margaret Kellas
Marketing Director: Maureen Smith
Development & Finance: Joseph Tang

George Preston, Joshua Sauvageau & WFMT

North Shore Baptist Church

NORTH SHORE BAPTIST CHURCH

Our viewers and all our good & necessary troublemakers!